

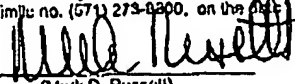
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Docket No.: 201657/2052  
(PATENT)

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Dated: August 21, 2006	Signature:  (Mark D. Runsett)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
*J. Benco et al.*

Application No.: 10/776,063

Confirmation No.: 2112

Filed: October 30, 2003

Art Unit: 1743

For: A DEVICE AND METHOD FOR THE  
DETERMINATION OF LITHIUM ION  
CONCENTRATION IN A BIOLOGICAL  
FLUID

Examiner: Soderquist, Arlen

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicants are in receipt of the final Office Action dated May 19, 2006 ("the Office Action"). Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as indicated below and consider the remarks that follow. As August 19, 2006, was a Saturday, it is believed that this response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.